



Your business  
is our business.

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

7852 Walker Drive, Suite 200  
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770  
phone: 301-459-7590, fax: 301-577-5575  
internet: [www.jsitel.com](http://www.jsitel.com), e-mail: [jsi@jsitel.com](mailto:jsi@jsitel.com)

June 20, 2017

**Via Hand Delivery**

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: WC Docket No. 14-58  
2017 ETC Annual Report of Palmetto Rural Coop.  
Study Area Code 240536**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Palmetto Rural Coop. ("Palmetto"), JSI files the attached confidential version of the FCC Form 481 ETC annual reporting information pursuant to sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules.<sup>1</sup> Company seeks confidential treatment under Protective Order for section 54.313(f)(2) financial information.<sup>2</sup> The redacted version is being filed this date via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System.

Please direct any questions regarding the filing to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

John Kuykendall  
JSI Vice President  
301-459-7590  
[jkuykendall@jsitel.com](mailto:jkuykendall@jsitel.com)

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<sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

<sup>2</sup> *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-58, Protective Order, DA 16-296 rel. March 22, 2016 (Protective Order). 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2).

<010>	Study Area Code	240536
<015>	Study Area Name	PALMETTO RURAL COOP
<020>	Program Year	2018
<030>	Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Valerie Ancrum
<035>	Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	8435389383 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop

Form Type	54.313 and 54.422
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**(200) Service Outage Reporting (Voice)  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	240536
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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop

<210> For the prior calendar year, were there any reportable voice service outages? No

[illegible]

<b>(300) Unfulfilled Service Request</b> <b>Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	240536
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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop

<300> Unfulfilled service request (voice)

0
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<310> Detail on attempts (voice)

Name of Attached Document

<320> Unfulfilled service request (broadband)

0
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<330> Detail on attempts (broadband)

Name of Attached Document

(400) Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	240536
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<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8435389383 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop
<400>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report voice complaints (zero or greater) for voice telephony service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize. Offered only fixed voice	
<410>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed voice	0 . 0
<420>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile voice	
<430>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report end-user customer complaints (zero or greater) for broadband service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize. Offered only fixed broadband	
<440>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed broadband	0 . 0
<450>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile broadband	

<b>(500) Compliance With Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules</b>		FCC Form 481
<b>Data Collection Form</b>		OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
		July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	240536
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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop
<500>	Certify compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules	Yes
240536SC510 .pdf		
<510>	Descriptive document for Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	
<515>	Certify compliance with applicable minimum service standards	

<b>(600) Functionality in Emergency Situations Data Collection Form</b>	<b>REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop
<600>	Certify compliance regarding ability to function in emergency situations	Yes
<610>	Descriptive document for Functionality in Emergency Situations	240536SC610.pdf

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**(700) Price Offerings including Voice Rate Data  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010> Study Area Code	240536
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<015>	Study Area Name	PALMETTO RURAL COOP
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<020>	Program Year	2018
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<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Valerie Ancrum
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<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8435389383 ext.
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<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop

<701> Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date

1/1/2017

<702> Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge

[illegible]



REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

<b>(710) Broadband Price Offerings</b> <b>Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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[illegible]

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<b>(800) Operating Companies</b> <b>Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
<811>	Holding Company	Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
<812>	Operating Company	Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

[illegible]

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

<900>	Does the filing entity offer tribal land services? (Y/N)	No
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If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached PDF, on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:

[illegible]

**(1000) Voice and Broadband Service Rate Comparability  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop

<1000> Voice services rate comparability certification Yes

<1010> Attach detailed description for voice services rate comparability compliance

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Attached Document

<1020> Broadband comparability certification

Yes - Pricing is no more than the most recent applicable benchmark announced by the Wireline Competition Bureau

<1030> Attach detailed description for broadband comparability compliance

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Attached Document

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**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop

<1100> Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Y/N)

Yes

<1130> Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).

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**(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers**  
**Lifeline**  
**Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481  
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
 July 2013

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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop

240536SC1210.pdf

Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website HTTP [www.prtc.coop](http://www.prtc.coop)

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- <1221> Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers, ☒
- <1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan, ☒
- <1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan. ☒

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(2005) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation

FCC Form 481

Data Collection Form

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	240536
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Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting

<2011>	3rd Year Certification 47 CFR §54.313(b)(1)(ii) - Note that for the July 2017 certification, this applies to Round 2 recipients of Incremental Support.		
<2022>	Recipient certifies, representing year three after filing a notice of acceptance of funding pursuant to 54.312(c), that the locations in question are not receiving support under the Broadband Initiatives Program or the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for projects that will provide broadband with speeds of at least 4 Mbps/1Mbps - 54.313(b)(2)(i). Round 2 recipients only.		
<2023>	The attachment on line 2024 includes a statement of the total amount of capital funding expended in the previous year in meeting Connect America Phase I deployment obligations, accompanied by a list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent. This covers year three - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.		
<2024A>	Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?		
<2024B>	Attach list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent in year three - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
<2025A>	Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?		
<2025B>	Attach geocoded Information for Phase I milestone reports (Round 2 for year three) - Connect America Fund , WC Docket 10-90, Report and Order, FCC 13-73, paragraph 35 (May 22, 2013).	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
<2015>	2016 and future Frozen Support Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)		

**(2005) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation**

**Data Collection Form**

*Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers*

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

**Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}**

<2016> Certification support used to build broadband

**Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}**

<2017A> Connect America Fund Phase II recipient?

<2017C> Total amount of Phase II support, if any, the price cap carrier used for capital expenditures in 2016.

<2018> Attach the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the carrier newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year - 54.313(e)(1)(ii)(A)

Name of Attached Document Listing  
Required Information

<2019> Recipient certifies that it bid on category one telecommunications and Internet access services in response to all FCC Form 470 postings seeking broadband service that meets the connectivity targets for the schools and libraries universal service support program for eligible schools and libraries located within any area in a census block where the carrier is receiving Phase II model-based support, and that such bids were at rates reasonably comparable to rates charged to eligible schools and libraries in urban areas for comparable offerings - 54.313(e)(1)(ii)(C)



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Select from the drop down menu or check the boxes below to note compliance with 54.313(f)(1). Privately held carriers must ensure compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

(3009)	Progress Report on 5 Year Plan Carrier certifies to 54.313(f)(1)(iii)	Yes - Attach Certification	
(3010A)	Certification of Public Interest Obligations {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)}		240536SC3010.pdf
(3010B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
(3012A)	Community Anchor Institutions {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)}	No - No New Community Anchors	
(3012B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
(3013)	Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)}	(Yes/No)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
(3014)	If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report	(Yes/No)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
(3015)	Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires: Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3016)	Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3017)	If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	240536SC3017.pdf
(3018)	If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?	(Yes/No)	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
(3019)	If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains: Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3020)	(2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3021)	Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3022)	Management letter and/or audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit. If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains: Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3023)	Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3024)	Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3025)	Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3026)	Attach the worksheet listing required information	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	

(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)

FCC Form 481

Data Collection Form

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

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Financial Data Summary

(3027) Revenue

(3028) Operating Expenses

(3029) Net Income

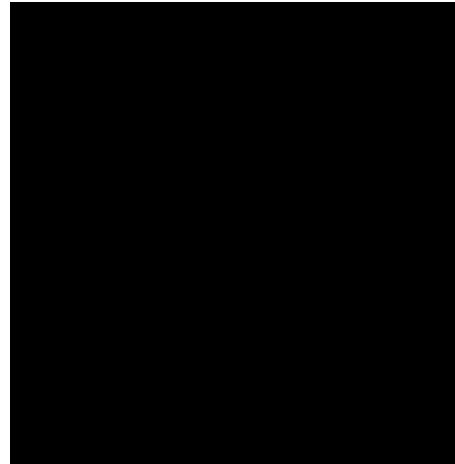
(3030) Telephone Plant In Service(TPIS)

(3031) Total Assets

(3032) Total Debt

(3033) Total Equity

(3034) Dividends



<b>(4005) Rural Broadband Experiment Additional Documentation</b> <b>Data Collection Form</b>	<b>FCC Form 481</b> <b>OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819</b> <b>July 2013</b>
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4005 Rural Broadband Experiment

Authorized Rural Broadband Experiment (RBE) recipients must address the certification for public interest obligations, provide a list of newly served community anchor institutions, and provide a list of locations where broadband has been deployed.

Public Interest Obligations – FCC 14-98 (paragraphs 26-29, 78)

Please address Line 4001 regarding compliance with the Commission’s public interest obligations. All RBE participants must provide a response to Line 4001.

**4001.** Recipient certifies that it is offering broadband to the identified locations meeting the requisite public interest obligations consistent with the category for which they were selected, including broadband speed, latency, usage capacity, and rates that are reasonably comparable to rates for comparable offerings in urban areas?

Community Anchor Institutions – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 79)

**4003a.** RBE participants must provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which they newly deployed broadband service in the preceding calendar year. On this line, please respond (yes – attach new community anchors, no – no new anchors) to indicate whether this list will be provided.

If yes to 4003A, please provide a response for 4003B.

<b>4003b.</b> Provide the number, names and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the recipient newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
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Broadband Deployment Locations – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 80)

<b>4004a.</b> Attach a list of geocoded locations to which broadband has been deployed as of the June 1st immediately preceding the July 1st filing deadline for the FCC Form 481.	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
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<b>4004b.</b> Attach evidence demonstrating that the recipient is meeting the relevant public service obligations for the identified locations. Materials must at least detail the pricing, offered broadband speed and data usage allowances available in the relevant geographic area.	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
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<b>Certification - Reporting Carrier Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:**

<b>Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients</b>	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier: PALMETTO RURAL COOP	
Signature of Authorized Officer: CERTIFIED ONLINE	Date 06/07/2017
Printed name of Authorized Officer: Dewaine Wilson	
Title or position of Authorized Officer: CFO	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: 8435389382 ext.	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 240536	Filing Due Date for this form: 07/03/2017
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

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<b>Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:**

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) _____ is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent:	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	
Signature of Authorized Officer:	Date:
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:**

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	
Name of Authorized Agent Firm:	
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	Date:
Name of Authorized Agent Employee:	
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent	
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

## Attachments

**Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.’s demonstration of complying with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules for voice and broadband services:**

In establishing this certification in its *2005 ETC Order*,<sup>1</sup> the FCC found that an ETC must make “a specific commitment to objective measures to protect consumers.”<sup>2</sup> The FCC found that for wireless ETCs, compliance with CTIA’s Consumer Code for Wireless Service would satisfy this requirement and that the sufficiency of other commitments would be considered on a case-by-case basis.<sup>3</sup> In this context, the FCC stated, “to the extent a wireline or wireless ETC applicant is subject to consumer protection obligations under state law, compliance with such laws may meet our requirement.”<sup>4</sup>

Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (“Palmetto”) hereby certifies that it is in compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules. Palmetto is subject to consumer protection obligations under both federal and South Carolina state law. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) filing a Local Exchange Tariff pursuant to the requirements of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina which disclose rates, and terms and conditions of service to customers (Section 103-612.2.1 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); (2) adherence to state consumer protection requirements governing telephone providers which govern Standards and Quality of Service (Sections 103-661, 103-662, and 103-663 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); Customer Relations,

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<sup>1</sup> *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, FCC 05-46 (rel. Mar. 17, 2005) (“*2005 ETC Order*”).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at para. 28.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* The FCC noted that under the CTIA Consumer Code, wireless carriers agree to: “(1) disclose rates and terms of service to customers; (2) make available maps showing where service is generally available; (3) provide contract terms to customers and confirm changes in service; (4) allow a trial period for new service; (5) provide specific disclosures in advertising; (6) separately identify carrier charges from taxes on billing statements; (7) provide customers the right to terminate service for changes to contract terms; (8) provide ready access to customer service; (9) promptly respond to consumer inquiries and complaints received from government agencies; and (10) abide by policies for protection of consumer privacy.” *Id.* at n. 71.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at n. 72.

including billing, deposits, discontinuance and termination of service (Sections 103-620 through 103-633 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); Engineering and Safety Standards (Sections 103-640 through 103-646 and 103-670 through 103-672 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); Inspections and Tests (Sections 103-650 through 103-653 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); Records and Reports (Sections 103-610 through 103-619 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations) and Customer Complaints (Section 103-628 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); (3) truth-in-billing requirements (Section 103-622.1 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); and (4) CPNI, Red Flag Rules and other applicable federal and state requirements governing the protection of customers' privacy.

Palmetto is subject to consumer protection obligations for broadband services under federal law. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: public disclosure of accurate information regarding network management practices, performance, and commercial terms of broadband internet access services; as a means of providing sufficient information for consumers to make informed choices regarding use of such services, and for content, application, service and device providers to develop, market, and maintain internet offerings as specified in 47 CFR § 8.3. The Company furthermore will comply with all requirements set forth in the *2015 Open Internet Order* when it becomes effective.



**Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative's demonstration of ability to function in emergency situations for voice and broadband services:**

Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("Palmetto") hereby certifies that it is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(2)<sup>1</sup> and Section 103-646 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations. Palmetto's network is designed to remain functional in emergency situations without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations as required by Section 54.202(a)(2) and Section 103-646 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations. Palmetto can change call routing translations as needed to reroute traffic around damaged facilities. Changing call routing translations will also allow Palmetto to manage traffic spikes throughout its network, as emergency situations require. In addition, Palmetto has redundancy for connectivity purposes *via* additional routes and electronic equipment for voice and broadband services.

Specifically, each central office building is supplied with standby generators and battery back-up that enable the central office to keep running until power is restored so long as fuel is available, or until system changes are made to reroute traffic. Palmetto has battery backup at all office locations and in its electronic equipment sites. Length of run time is determined by the equipment serving the area and the number of customers working out of the equipment. Generators are installed at all Central Office locations. They will continue to run as long as Palmetto has access to propane.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 54.202(a)(2) requires ETCs that are designated by the Commission to "demonstrate its ability to remain functional in emergency situations, including a demonstration that it has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations."

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

**(700) Price Offerings including Voice Rate Data  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	240536
<015>	Study Area Name	PALMETTO RURAL COOP
<020>	Program Year	2018
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Valerie Ancrum
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8435389383 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop

<701> Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date

1/1/2017

<702> Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge

<703>

[illegible]

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

<b>(710) Broadband Price Offerings</b> <b>Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	240536
<015>	Study Area Name	PALMETTO RURAL COOP
<020>	Program Year	2018
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Valerie Ancrum
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8435389383 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop

<711>	<a1>	<a2>	<b1>	<b2>	<c>	<d1>	<d2>	<d3>	<d4>
	State	Exchange (ILEC)	Residential Rate	State Regulated Fees	Total Rates and Fees	Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)	Broadband Service - Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allowance (GB)	Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached {select}
	SC	ALL	29.95	0.0	29.95	3.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Copper	49.95	0.0	49.95	6.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Copper	69.95	0.0	69.95	10.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	69.95	0.0	69.95	25.0	10.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	64.95	0.0	64.95	15.0	2.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	69.95	0.0	69.95	25.0	10.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	79.95	0.0	79.95	50.0	25.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	99.95	0.0	99.95	100.0	50.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	199.95	0.0	199.95	250.0	100.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	299.95	0.0	299.95	500.0	250.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	69.95	0.0	69.95	5.0	5.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	299.95	0.0	299.95	25.0	25.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	399.95	0.0	399.95	50.0	50.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	429.95	0.0	429.95	100.0	100.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	499.95	0.0	499.95	200.0	200.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	799.95	0.0	799.95	500.0	500.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.
	SC	ALL - Fiber	999.95	0.0	999.95	1000.0	1000.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance.

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

(800) Operating Companies	FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	240536
<015>	Study Area Name	PALMETTO RURAL COOP
<020>	Program Year	2018
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Valerie Ancrum
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8435389383 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	valerie.ancrum@prtc.coop
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
<811>	Holding Company	Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
<812>	Operating Company	Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

[illegible]

**Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.**

**SAC: 240536**

**Line Number: 1210**

## 2017 Lifeline Application

### Application for Lifeline

- Lifeline is a federal benefit and willfully making false statements to obtain the benefit can result in de-enrollment, fines and prosecution.
- Only one Lifeline benefit is available per household.
- A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses.
- A household may not receive Lifeline benefits from multiple providers.
- If a household receives more than one Lifeline benefit, it will be de-enrolled from the program.
- The Lifeline benefit may not be transferred to any other person.

### Qualifying Methods

You may qualify for Lifeline either because you participate in one of the programs below or because your income is within the following guidelines. **NOTE: You may receive Social Security and Medicare benefits, but to qualify for Lifeline, you must receive benefits from one of the following programs or your income must fall within the guidelines.**

#### Program Eligibility

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Federal Public Housing/Section 8
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veteran's Pension and Survivor Benefit

#### Income Eligibility

Annual Income 135% Thresholds Based on Household Size								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	For each add'l person
\$16,268	\$21,924	\$27,567	\$33,210	\$38,853	\$44,496	\$50,139	\$55,782	+ \$5,643/person

(Note: The subscriber will need to provide 3 of hisr most recent paystubs from the previous 12 months, Social Security Benefit Letter or W-2.)

#### The subscriber understands that:

1. His household meets the income-based or program-based eligibility criteria for receiving Lifeline, shown above. If my annual income exceeds 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, I will notify the company on page 1.
2. He will notify the company on page 1 within 30 days if for any reason I no longer qualify to receive Lifeline.
3. He will notify the company on page 1 within 30 days if I move to a new address or I will verify every 90 days that the temporary address is still current.
4. He must certify that his household is not receiving any other Lifeline benefit and will not apply for an additional one from another wireline or wireless carrier.
5. The information contained in this application/certification form is true and correct.
6. Giving fraudulent information is punishable by law.
7. He may be required to re-certify my continued eligibility for Lifeline and that my failure to re-certify will result in de-enrollment.

#### Pricing

By enrolling in Lifeline, the subscriber will receive \$9.25 credit from Federal and \$3.00 credit from State towards his local service of \$18.00. The total credit of \$12.25 will be applied toward local service on POTS or bundled packages. If the subscriber chooses to have toll calls, they can subscribe to 12 cents per minute, 6 cents per minute and \$3.95 per month or unlimited minutes for \$25.90. The subscriber will be able to make unlimited local calls.

**LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE**

**6.1 APPLICATION OF RATES, CHARGES AND REGULATIONS**

**6.1.1 Local Flat Rate Service**

- A. Local exchange access service rates and charges as specified in this tariff are for only local exchange service and facilities of the Company within the Company's exchange service area as approved by the Commission.
- B. The furnishing of communications services by the Company is also subject to the rates, charges, rules and regulations of this General Exchange Tariff as it now exists or as it may be revised, added to, or supplemented by superseding issues, and these rates are hereby made a part of these local exchange service tariffs.
- C. This tariff cancels and supersedes all other local exchange service tariffs issued and effective prior to the effective date of these tariffs.
- D. Unless otherwise specified, the rates and charges listed in this tariff are payable for a period of one month, in advance, and entitle the customer to unlimited, flat rate calling.
- E. The Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. offers single party residence and business service throughout its service area.

Effective, January 1, 2002, local service other than single party service is being discontinued and will not be available to new customers. Existing customers will be able to continue to use two party or local service other than single party service. However, when the customer discontinues local service other than single party service and switches to single party local service, the customer will not be able to switch back to local service other than single party service.

- F. Rates and Charges for this service and other miscellaneous services can be found in Section 16 of this Tariff.

**Issued:**

**Effective: Upon Approval of the Commission**

**PALMETTO RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.  
Jason Dandridge, Chief Executive Officer  
2471 Jefferies Highway, Walterboro, South Carolina 29488-1577  
Email: jason.dandridge@prtc.coop Phone No.: (843) 538-2020**

**PALMETTO RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.  
GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF  
SOUTH CAROLINA**

**SECTION 6  
ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 3**

**LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE**

**6.1 APPLICATION OF RATES, CHARGES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)**

**6.1.2 Local Calling Areas**

The local exchange rates authorized by the South Carolina Public Service Commission, listed in Section 16.4, entitle subscribers to access all exchange access lines: (1) bearing the central office designations of the subscriber's exchange, (2) the central office designation(s) of additional exchanges or central offices as follows:

<u>Exchange/NXX</u>	<u>Exchanges in Local Calling Area</u>
COTTAGEVILLE	Hendersonville, Lodge, Walterboro, North Walterboro, South Walterboro, Williams
HENDERSONVILLE	Cottageville, Lodge, Walterboro, North Walterboro, South Walterboro, Williams
LODGE	Cottageville, Hendersonville, Walterboro, North Walterboro, South Walterboro, Williams
WALTERBORO	Cottageville, Hendersonville, Lodge, North Walterboro, South Walterboro, Williams
NORTH WALTERBORO	Cottageville, Hendersonville, Lodge, Walterboro, South Walterboro, Williams
SOUTH WALTERBORO	Cottageville, Hendersonville, Lodge, Walterboro, North Walterboro, Williams
WILLIAMS	Cottageville, Hendersonville, Lodge, North Walterboro, South Walterboro, Walterboro

**Issued:**

**Effective: Upon Approval of the Commission**

**PALMETTO RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.  
Jason Dandridge, Chief Executive Officer  
2471 Jefferies Highway, Walterboro, South Carolina 29488-1577  
Email: jason.dandridge@prtc.coop Phone No.: (843) 538-2020**

**PALMETTO RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.  
GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF  
SOUTH CAROLINA**

**SECTION 6  
3rd REVISED SHEET NO. 4  
CANCELS 2nd REVISED SHEET NO. 4**

**LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE**

**6.2 LIFELINE PROGRAM**

**6.2.1 General**

- A. Lifeline Assistance is a non-transferable residential retail service offering for which qualifying low-income subscribers pay reduced charges, as provided for below. Lifeline Assistance enables eligible subscribers to pay reduced charges on supported services as defined in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101 which meet the minimum standards as defined in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.408. (C)
- B. The Lifeline credit available to an eligible customer in South Carolina is equal to the total of federal support as established by the Federal Communications Commission (47 C.F.R. Section 54.403) and state support as established by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. The amount of credit will not exceed the charge for local service, which includes the access line, the Subscriber Line Charge and local usage. (C)
- C. The Company shall apply the baseline payments received by the administrator of the federal Lifeline Assistance program to waive the qualifying customer's federal End-User Common Line Charge associated with the voice service. The Company shall apply any additional federal support amount to the qualifying customer's basic local exchange service rate. (C)
- D. Qualifying customers must subscribe to a generally available residential service plan or package that is made generally available in the Company's service area. (D)  
(C)  
(C)
- E. Partial payments that are received from Lifeline customers shall first be applied to the supported service charges and then to any outstanding charges for additional services. (C)
- F. Nothing in this Section shall prohibit a customer who is otherwise eligible for the Lifeline Program from obtaining and using telecommunications equipment and services designed to aid such customer in utilizing qualifying telecommunications services.
- G. The Lifeline Program rate reduction does not apply to Service Connection Charges.
- H. The Lifeline Program rate will not be available on a retroactive basis.

**Issued: November 16, 2016**

**Effective: December 2, 2016**

**PALMETTO RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.  
Jason Dandridge, Chief Executive Officer  
2471 Jefferies Highway, Walterboro, South Carolina 29488-1577  
Email: jason.dandridge@prtc.coop Phone No.: (843) 538-2020**



**LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE**

**6.2 LIFELINE PROGRAM (Cont'd)**

**6.2.2 Eligibility and Certification Requirements**

A. Subscribers are eligible for Lifeline Assistance if:

1. The subscriber's household income is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or
2. The subscriber, or one or more of the subscriber's dependents or the subscriber's household, receives benefits from at least one of the following qualifying programs:

Medicaid;  
 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps;  
 Supplemental Security Income (SSI);  
 Federal Public Housing Assistance;

Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit Programs.

3. Other eligibility requirements may be established by the Federal Communications Commission.

- B. Until the National Lifeline Eligibility Verifier has been implemented in South Carolina, each subscriber to Lifeline Assistance must provide documentation of income-based or program-based eligibility and certify in writing to the Company, under penalty of perjury, that s/he receives benefits under a program outlined in paragraph A. above, and must on that same document, agree to notify the Company if s/he ceases to participate in the program(s) or to meet income eligibility requirements. The certification form shall conform to the requirements described herein, and shall be made available upon request to any subscriber. The Company shall retain all such subscriber certifications in order to furnish proof of subscriber eligibility as may be required from time to time by Universal Service administrators.
- C. A subscriber may elect at the time of subscription to Lifeline Assistance to receive toll limitation as part of Lifeline Assistance. "Toll limitation" is a service that allows a subscriber to elect not to allow the completion of outgoing toll calls from the subscriber's residence.

(D)

(D)

(D)

(N)

(C)

(C)

(N)

(C)

**PALMETTO RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.  
GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF  
SOUTH CAROLINA**

**SECTION 6  
3rd REVISED SHEET NO. 7  
CANCELS 2nd REVISED SHEET NO. 7**

**LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE**

**6.2 LIFELINE PROGRAM (Cont'd)**

**6.2.5 Credit and Collection**

**A. Credit References**

The credit verification procedures used for all applicants who apply for service with the Company will also be used for applicants who apply for service under the Lifeline Program.

**B. Deposits**

The Company may not collect a service deposit in order to initiate voice-only Lifeline Assistance if the qualifying low-income subscriber voluntarily elects toll blocking from the Company, where available or if the qualifying low-income subscriber elects a calling plan that does not distinguish between toll and non-toll calls in its pricing. If toll blocking is unavailable, then the Company may charge a service deposit.

(C)

**6.2.6 Service Connection Charges**

**A.** Service charges do not apply to eligible customers with existing residential access line service when they convert to the Lifeline Program.

**B.** Service Connection Charges will apply when:

1. Existing eligible residential Local Exchange Service customers also convert to a different grade of eligible residential service and/or Optional Calling Services at the time the Lifeline Program billing is initiated.
2. A customer receiving Lifeline Program billing voluntarily elects to convert to telephone service arrangements which preclude Lifeline Program eligibility.
3. New residential applicants (those without existing service) eligible for the Lifeline Program will be subject to applicable Service Connection Charges.

(C)

**C.** Any subsequent moves or changes after the initial connection to the Lifeline Program will be subject to the applicable Service Charges as outlined in Section 16 of this Tariff.

**Issued: November 16, 2016**

**Effective: December 2, 2016**

**PALMETTO RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.  
Jason Dandridge, Chief Executive Officer  
2471 Jefferies Highway, Walterboro, South Carolina 29488-1577  
Email: jason.dandridge@prtc.coop Phone No.: (843) 538-2020**

**PALMETTO RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.  
GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF  
SOUTH CAROLINA**

**SECTION 16  
3RD REVISED SHEET NO. 6  
CANCELS 2ND REVISED SHEET NO. 6**

**RATES AND CHARGES**

**16.3 SERVICE CHARGES (Cont'd)**

**16.3.9 Returned Check Charge**

Per Occasion

The returned check charge will be equal to, or less than, the rate allowed by S.C. Code Ann. § 34-11-70 (Supp. 1998).

**16.3.10 Late Payment Charge**

The Company may establish a Late Payment Charge as it deems appropriate subject to the maximum amounts and the exceptions contained in South Carolina Public Service Commission Reg. 103-622.2.

**16.4 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE CHARGES**

The following charges are assessed for the services listed in Section 6 of this tariff.

**16.4.1 Flat Rate Service**

	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	
A. <u>Business</u>		
One Party	\$28.70	
B. <u>Residence</u>		
One Party	\$18.00	(I)
C. <u>Pay Station</u>		
Public Telephone Access Service (PTAS)	\$28.70	
D. <u>PABX and PBX</u>		
PBX Trunk Lines	\$33.75	
KEY-PBX Trunk Lines	\$28.70	
E. <u>Extensions</u>		
Off-Premises Access	\$ 5.25	
F. <u>Touch Calling Service (Pushbutton Dialing)</u>		
Business (per line)	\$ 0.00	
Residence (per line)	\$ 0.00	

**Issued: April 11, 2016**

**Effective: June 1, 2016**

**PALMETTO RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.  
Jason Dandridge, Chief Executive Officer  
2471 Jefferies Highway, Walterboro, South Carolina 29488-1577  
Email: jason.dandridge@prtc.coop Phone No.: (843) 538-2020**

**Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (SAC 240536)**

**Response to Line 3010 – Milestone Certification (47 CFR §54.313(f)(1)(i))**

Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc., hereby certifies that throughout 2016, it took reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request broadband service at actual speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream, with latency suitable for real-time applications, including Voice over Internet Protocol, and usage capacity that is reasonably comparable to comparable offerings in urban areas and that requests for such service are met within a reasonable amount of time. If a request for broadband service at actual speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream is unreasonable, the Company offers broadband service at the highest available speed.

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

**REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

**ATTACHMENT - LINE 3017**

**ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY**